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22 December 1970

2791-PP  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of Legislative Counsel  
THROUGH : Deputy Director for Intelligence  
SUBJECT : Comments on Proposed Extension of  
the Export Administration Act of  
1969 to 1975

1. This memorandum is in response to your request for our views on the subject proposal.

2. CIA is involved in export control programs from two standpoints:

a. As a principal in those export control items which could affect intelligence sources and methods; and

b. As an intelligence advisor to export control action agencies on all other items subject to export regulations.

With respect to the latter role of providing intelligence support, the proposed bill would essentially extend our present support activities from 1971 (when the existing Act is scheduled to expire) to 1975. Such an extension would have a minimum impact on our mission or workload.

3. We act as a principal in the export control system administered by the Department of Commerce under the provisions of the Export Administration Act of 1969 in those cases where the protection of intelligence sources and methods is involved. In this role, we are primarily concerned with denying to Communist countries access to advanced Western electronics equipment which would either significantly enhance the security of their military and civilian communications, or enhance their ability to collect intelligence on US and NATO-related military targets. For example, we continue

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to object to release of high-performance video tape recorders which can and have been used by Communist countries to intercept information on Western air defense exercises.

4. In connection with the responsibilities which the Agency discharges on items covered by paragraph 3, we believe it would be important to continue to deny to Communist countries advanced Western technology which would compromise US and allied intelligence sources and methods or improve Communist collection capabilities. Therefore, we believe that the extension of the subject Act from 1971 to 1975 would be a positive and desirable move, since during this period there will be a significant gap between advanced electronics equipment in the West, particularly in the US, and that available within Communist countries.

[REDACTED] 25X1  
EDWARD L. ALLEN  
Director  
Economic Research

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